

Cascade Springs remodeling done

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By JOSEPHINE ZIMMERMAN
Herald Staff Writer

Remodeling of visitor facilities at Cascade Springs has been completed and the scenic area is now open to the public.

Cascade Springs is a unique area, unlike any of the surrounding lands. Springs bubble up out of a meadow high on the mountain, and the water cascades down through pools, finally disappearing below.

The area can be reached by a narrow, paved road up the left fork of Provo Canyon beyond Aspen Grove, or by way of Midway. The Midway access has one area of steep, unpaved road.

The boardwalk over the spring area has been widened and barriers placed along the edges to accommodate wheelchairs. A new paved ramp with a gradual slope makes the area wheelchair accessible.

Paved walkways through the area have also been widened and reinforced along the edges with rock-work.

We've completed a great deal of rock work along the banks with rocks we took out of the trail areas, said Von Stokes of the Uinta National Forest Service.

New metal benches have been installed at various locations along the trail, where visitors can sit and enjoy the views. New drinking fountains have also been installed. These fountains are of unusual de-

sign consisting of heavy redwood frames around the pipes. They were built by senior citizens.

An enlarged, paved, parking area now can handle 50 cars, nearly twice as many as before.

Improvements have also been made in the restroom facilities.

A small meadow will be used for environmental education. Forest Service officials plan to offer the opportunity to school groups to visit the springs and learn about what effect the springs have on the area, the wildlife and the plants.

"The students will have an opportunity to see all these things first hand and will be asked to make decisions on how to manage the springs to protect the environment. It's a unique area where you can see sagebrush, usually associated with drier desert areas on one side and aspen trees on the other," said Loyal Clark, forest information officer.

She said that interpretive signs pointing out some of the area's special features will be installed in the spring.

Stokes said the area is having some problem with vandalism.

Vandals have been tearing shingles off the gazebo at the entrance and stacking them nearby.

"This only costs the public more for the repair work," Stokes pointed out.



Herald Photo/David Dahl

Cascade Springs recently reopened after the area was remodeled.

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Local

Jessup flees state hospital

By ANTON GARRITY
Herald Staff Writer

A man suspected of committing up to five rapes in the area has escaped from the Utah State Hospital. Police describe the man as dangerous.

Jack Jessup, 45, reportedly escaped sometime between 8:30 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Tuesday. He was reported to have been on medication at the time of his escape, said Capt. Duane Fraser of the Provo Police Department.

Jessup had been suspected of five rapes in Utah County during the past year. He pleaded guilty and mentally ill in June to aggravated rape and aggravated kidnapping. Fourth District Judge George Ballif ordered that he be committed to the Psychiatric Security Review Board at the Utah State Hospital. Jessup was sent to the Utah State Hospital where he was undergoing psychiatric evaluation.

It appeared to hospital supervisors that Jessup was especially groggy from the medication he was taking and was told to go lie down



Jack Jessup

in his room about 8:30 p.m., said Utah State Hospital Public Relations Officer Janina Chilton.

It wasn't until 9:15 p.m. that the next head count was taken of all the patients. At that time it was discovered that Jessup had escaped, Chilton said.

Jessup's room is on the third floor. He allegedly knocked out his window and kicked out the screen. There are no bars in the windows to prevent anyone from climbing in or out. Jessup had been cleaning his room, which is customary for all inmates, said Chilton.

He used the vacuum cleaner cord to climb down the side of the building. The Utah State Hospital's annual Haunted Castle was in full swing at the time of Jessup's escape. According to Chilton this helped Jessup to easily lose himself among the many people walking around the hospital grounds.

Because of the Haunted Castle

there were fewer supervisors in the sexual offense ward. "This is the first sexual offender to have ever escaped that I can remember," said Chilton. "We really need security screens on our windows. We hope somebody out there will not listen to us."

Utah State Hospital doesn't have official security guards and relies heavily on patients keeping an eye on each other. Many of the patients at the hospital are also involved in the Haunted Castle, so there were not as many remaining to watch the other patients, including Jessup, Chilton explained.

Jessup's wife in Santaquin has been notified of her husband's escape in case he should show up there. He is considered dangerous but police said they don't believe he is armed.

He was wearing light blue pants and a T-shirt with a dark blue jacket.